

# Replace nonnative plants with Missouri natives



The next time you're ready to select plants for your landscape, think native. To help you, we put together a list of native plant alternatives for plants often sold at retail centers. Plants listed on the left are not native, but imported exotics, and many of them are invasive. When they escape into natural areas — and they do — they harm Missouri's wild ecosystems. The escape artists are marked with an asterisk (\*) and should be avoided. Not all plants on the left are invasive. In fact, they, along with the invasive plants, often add beauty to a landscape. The downside is that they provide little in the way of habitat for the wildlife we want to invite into our yards. Consider replacing them, as well as the invasive, nonnative plants, with native plants listed on the right. These plants are beautiful, are adapted to Missouri's climate, need minimal maintenance, and provide food and shelter for desirable wildlife. To learn more about native plants, visit [www.grownative.org](http://www.grownative.org).

	PROBLEMATIC NONNATIVES	BENEFICIAL NATIVES
Shrubs and Small Trees	Amur maple ( <i>Acer ginnala</i> )	American hornbeam, ironwood or blue beech ( <i>Carpinus caroliniana</i> ) Pagoda dogwood ( <i>Cornus alternifolia</i> ) Red buckeye ( <i>Aesculus pavia</i> ) Serviceberry ( <i>Amelanchier arborea</i> ) Witch hazel ( <i>Hamamelis virginiana</i> ) Indian cherry ( <i>Rhamnus caroliniana</i> )
	* Autumn olive ( <i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i> )	Serviceberry ( <i>Amelanchier arborea</i> )
	Barberry ( <i>Berberis thunbergii</i> , <i>Berberis vulgaris</i> )	New Jersey tea ( <i>Ceanothus americanus</i> ) Virginia sweetspire ( <i>Itea virginica</i> )
	* Bush honeysuckles ( <i>Lonicera x bella</i> , <i>Lonicera maackii</i> )	American beauty berry ( <i>Callicarpa americana</i> )
	* Butterfly bush ( <i>Buddleja davidii</i> )	New Jersey tea ( <i>Ceanothus americanus</i> )
	Nonnative crabapple ( <i>Malus</i> )	Deciduous holly or possum haw ( <i>Ilex decidua</i> ) Serviceberry ( <i>Amelanchier arborea</i> )
	Forsythia ( <i>Forsythia x intermedia</i> )	Spice bush ( <i>Lindera benzoin</i> ) Golden currant ( <i>Ribes odoratum</i> )
	Golden raintree ( <i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i> )	Western soapberry ( <i>Sapindus drummondii</i> ) (may not be hardy in northern part of state)
	Japanese pagoda ( <i>Sophora japonica</i> )	Western soapberry ( <i>Sapindus drummondii</i> ) (may not be hardy in northern part of state)
	Japanese tree lilac ( <i>Syringa reticulata</i> )	Fringe tree ( <i>Chionanthus virginicus</i> )
	Lilac ( <i>Syringa</i> )	Fringe tree ( <i>Chionanthus virginicus</i> )
	Nonnative hydrangea ( <i>Hydrangea</i> )	Wild hydrangea ( <i>Hydrangea arborescens</i> )
	Spiraea ( <i>Spiraea</i> )	American beauty berry ( <i>Callicarpa americana</i> )
	* Winged euonymus; burning bush ( <i>Euonymus alatus</i> )	Wahoo ( <i>Euonymus atropurpureus</i> )

	PROBLEMATIC NONNATIVES	BENEFICIAL NATIVES
Large Trees	Bradford pear ( <i>Pyrus calleryana</i> 'Bradford')	Black gum; black tupelo ( <i>Nyssa sylvatica</i> ) Fringe tree ( <i>Chionanthus virginicus</i> ) American basswood ( <i>Tilia americana</i> )
	Japanese zelkova ( <i>Zelkova serrata</i> )	Shumard oak ( <i>Quercus shumardi</i> ) Sugarberry ( <i>Celtis laevigata</i> ) Yellowwood ( <i>Cladrastis kentukea</i> )
	Siberian elm ( <i>Ulmus pumila</i> )	Hackberry ( <i>Celtis occidentalis</i> ) Chinquapin oak ( <i>Quercus macrocarpa</i> )
Vines	* Japanese honeysuckle ( <i>Lonicera japonica</i> )	Yellow honeysuckle ( <i>Lonicera flava</i> )
	* Chinese bittersweet ( <i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i> )	American bittersweet ( <i>Celastrus scandens</i> )
	Porcelain berry ( <i>Ampelopsis brevipedunculata</i> )	Virginia creeper ( <i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i> )
	* Wintercreeper ( <i>Euonymus fortunei</i> )	Wild Ginger ( <i>Asarum canadense</i> )
Herbaceous Perennials and Grasses	Aster cultivars ( <i>Aster</i> )	New England aster ( <i>Symphyotrichum novae-angliae</i> ) Aromatic aster ( <i>Symphyotrichum oblongifolius</i> ) Silky aster ( <i>Symphyotrichum sericeus</i> ) Sky blue aster ( <i>Symphyotrichum oolentangiensis</i> ) Southern prairie aster ( <i>Symphyotrichum paludosus</i> ) Smooth aster ( <i>Symphyotrichum laeve</i> )
	Bleeding heart ( <i>Dicentra spectabilis</i> )	Celandine poppy ( <i>Stylophorum diphyllum</i> ) Roundleaf groundsel ( <i>Packera obovata</i> ) Virginia bluebells ( <i>Mertensia virginica</i> )
	Bugle weed ( <i>Ajuga</i> )	Wild ginger ( <i>Asarum canadense</i> )
	Coreopsis cultivars	Lanceleaf coreopsis ( <i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i> ) Prairie coreopsis ( <i>Coreopsis palmata</i> )
	* Dame's rocket ( <i>Hesperis matronalis</i> )	Garden phlox ( <i>Phlox paniculata</i> )
	Delphinium cultivars	Tall larkspur ( <i>Delphinium exaltatum</i> )
	Foxglove ( <i>Digitalis</i> )	Foxglove beard tongue ( <i>Penstemon digitalis</i> ) Purple beard tongue ( <i>Penstemon cobaea</i> ) Prairie beard tongue ( <i>Penstemon tubaeiflorus</i> )
	Hibiscus cultivars	Rose mallow ( <i>Hibiscus lasiocarpus</i> )
	Pachysandra ( <i>Pachysandra terminalis</i> )	Golden ragwort ( <i>Packera aurea</i> ) Roundleaf groundsel ( <i>Packera obovata</i> ) Wild ginger ( <i>Asarum canadense</i> )
	* Purple loosestrife ( <i>Lythrum</i> )	Marsh milkweed ( <i>Asclepias incarnata</i> ) Queen of the prairie ( <i>Filipendula rubra</i> ) Blazing stars ( <i>Liatris</i> spp.)
	Wormwood ( <i>Artemisia</i> )	Missouri primrose ( <i>Oenothera macrocarpa</i> )
	* Yellow flag ( <i>Iris pseudacorus</i> )	Southern blue flag ( <i>Iris virginica</i> )
	Maiden grass ( <i>Miscanthus</i> )	Switch grass ( <i>Panicum virgatum</i> )
	Fountain grass ( <i>Pennisetum</i> )	Prairie dropseed ( <i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i> )

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